

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 22, 2000 LB 953

concerning substantive issues within our criminal justice system.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Was that a commission established by law?

SENATOR HILGERT: It had statutory foundation.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And what kind of powers did it have?

SENATOR HILGERT: It was certainly advisory. They did...we did have the power to expend a few dollars for a consultant which was much needed.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is this group advisory, or does it have substantive duties that it will carry out?

SENATOR HILGERT: I would like to, frankly, review the definition of advisory versus substantive at this time. I think I know where you're going but I would, at least in the vernacular, characterize it as a substantive duty, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, and they really are. I'd like to ask Senator Vrtiska a question now, if I may.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Vrtiska, you probably felt when I was asking were you willing to risk this bill that I was talking about what I might do to harm the bill, didn't you?

SENATOR VRTISKA: No, not really, I...well, I suspect probably so.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yeah, that's the direction you thought the risk might come from. Let me ask you this. Might that assumption have been a bit premature? Let me ask a different question? If, indeed, this is an executive department board, and I believe that it is, and having legislators on an executive department board violates the constitutional separation of